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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/689,789

10/20/2003

Brent A. Hill

42P17630

7601

8791

7590

04/07/2006

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EXAMINER

CHUNG TRANS, XUONG MY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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10/689,789

EXAMINER

X. CHUNG-TRANS

ART UNIT	PAPER
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20060329

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Commissioner for Patents

Reply Examiner's Answer

This is in response to the reply brief filed on January 25, 2006.

In the reply brief, applicant alleges that the Examiner incorrectly states that there has been no known related appeal which may have a bearing on the Board's decision in the instant appeal. The examiner would like to point out that applicant's appeal brief filed August 25, 2005 specifically stated "there are no known related appeals and/or interferences" and that applicant is in the better position to state whether a related appeal which may have a bearing on the Board's decision at the time the appeal brief was filed. As to the outcome of the other application (10/404,975) after filing an appeal brief, the examiner would like to point out that the examiner voluntarily reopened prosecution to provide a more concise Office action and to further improve for purposes of appeal. Further, the examiner would like to point out that the instant application is going forward after an appeal conference was conducted and point out that the instant application and the '975 application are independent and distinct one from the other.

Xuong Chung-Trans

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